

From: Barth Netterfield
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/17/01 1:04am
Subject: Microsoft anti-trust case

Hi,

[one line summary: the proposed settlement is not strict enough]

Please consider this when considering the proposed settlement: This may very well be the most important antitrust case since the railroads were broken up.

By having a monopoly on the operating system, Microsoft is able to leverage into other areas of computer technology, with the stated goal of controlling all aspects of computing. Controlling computing means controlling almost all aspects of modern financial life. Without strong legal intervention, it will be impossible for any business or individual to function without paying Microsoft whatever Microsoft wants them to pay.

A comparison with the railroads being the only form of transportation in or out of a town is a good one.

Microsoft has shown itself to be a well managed, and and effective company - we can absolutly count on them to be very clever and effective in maintaining, building, and exploiting the monopoly they have developed. Any possible loophole will be exploited. We can count on it.

Thanks for reading (whoever is reading this....)

Barth Netterfield